

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The non-final Office Action of August 24, 2004 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

In the Office Action, claims 12-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,424,401 B1 to Kang et al. (hereinafter "Kang '401"). The rejection of claims 12-20 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Kang '401 is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) because its filing date is after the filing date of the parent application of the present application. Specifically, the present application claims the benefit of the filing date of December 4, 1998 of the parent application, 09/205,582. Therefore, because the filing date of the parent is prior to the filing date of Kang '401, Kang '401 is not prior art under § 102(e).

Furthermore, the present application claims priority from Korean Patent Application 1998-25443 that is dated June 30, 1998 and is also before the filing date of Kang '401. Therefore, Kang '401 is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Accordingly, Applicant encloses with this Response a certified English language translation of Korean Patent Application 1998-25443 to perfect Applicant's claim for priority.

At least for this reason, the rejection of claims 12-20 is traversed, and Applicant respectfully requests that these claims be allowed. In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.


Applicant believes the foregoing discussion places the application in condition for

allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner deem that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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